

# Rap Sheet



Volume 2, Issue 2 Fall 2003

A Newsletter Created By and For the Employees of the Department of Public Safety

Just seconds before their "near head-on collision on July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2003," 62-year-old Office of Traffic Safety Law Enforcement Liaison Phil Robertson told his daughter Julie that they were going to crash and to "jump when I tell you to." Heading home on Highway 395N from a fishing trip, Phil and his 11-year old daughter Julie were riding on his Harley, while his son and wife followed in their vehicle.

Suddenly, a mini Cooper car traveling too fast for the curved highway, swerved into their lane. Phil did the only thing he could do, quickly maneuvering out of the way and over an embankment which catapulted him over the front of the bike. Julie did what her Father told her to do and walked away with just a few cuts and a sprained ankle. But Phil wasn't so lucky. Eventually transported to Washoe via Care Flight, doctors told his wife Mary it was unlikely he would survive. The list of life threatening injuries included: severe brain trauma, failed kidneys, a broken nose, cheekbone and jaw, three broken ribs, a punctured lung, a broken left arm and a dislocated right shoulder. The driver of the mini Cooper sped away without stopping to see if Phil was OK.

Amazingly, after 34 days in intensive care, 30 days in extended care and several weeks at home, Phil is back to work. If you ask him why he survived he says, "Well, I guess because God has something else for me to do. Plus, I think the fact that I played semi-pro football up until I was 55 probably toughened me up to handle this kind of thing."

Phil is a former long-time motorcycle officer with a



Robertson family with Show & Shine Benefit Winner



Robertson Benefit Show & Shine Winner



Robertson Benefit Show & Shine Entrants

law enforcement career that spans over 35 years, including service in the states of California, Nevada, Idaho and Washington. Working as the OTS law enforcement liaison, Phil's job is to communicate and encourage jurisdictions to participate in traffic safety campaigns. "He gets things accomplished that other folks in our business just can't do. He knows virtually all the who's who in law enforcement and that

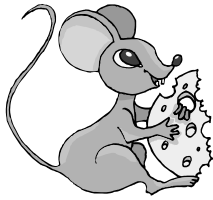
translates into a whole lot of assistance for Nevada jurisdictions," said Col. Dave Hosmer, Chief of the Nevada Highway Patrol. "Phil works diligently to connect all police

agencies together for the common goal of traffic safety. He single handedly made the annual

Joining Forces campaign a tremendous success by getting every shop in Nevada to participate in the operational and promotional components of the campaign," comments OTS Chief Chuck Abbott. "We're thrilled he is recovering and that he is back to work doing what he does best."

Because Phil is a contract employee with OTS without benefits and at the time of his crash he was attempting to find an insurance company to cover him, he does not have medical insurance. If you are interested in helping the family cope with expenses, please mail donations to US Bank, Account Number 153751271179, 5150 Mae Anne Ave. Suite 205, Reno, NV 89523.

Welcome Back Phil!



## "Say Cheese"



Graduating members of the First Line Supervisors Training Academy...Back row: Scott Swain, Dennis Sugg, Scott McGregor, Robert Oakden, Wayne Wick, Steve Griswold. Front row: Robert Rikolo, Mark E. Smith, Novelt Mack, Kevin Bailey, Roy Baughman



Cpt. Mark Malloy (left) presented special service awards to Trp John Jessee, Trp Mike Griff, Bud Dalbec, mechanic, and civilian inspector Mike Jameson.



Retired troopers Larry Reynolds and Cliff Smith display their Presidential proclamations.



NHP Silver Medal of Valor & Meritorious Service Award recipients (with Maj. Wideman and Col. Hosmer). **Left to right:** Maj. Wideman, Trp. Sean Giurlani, Trp. Dave Lewis, Trp. Chris Brandt, Trp. Mel Pecson, Trp. Mike Edgell, Col. Hosmer.





Tammie Smith, P&P Officer in Pahrump, proudly announces the marriage of her lovely daughter, Rebecca Alward to James Parker, Jr. The wedding took place on 9/21/2003 at Emerald Gardens in Las Vegas. Rebecca is a Corrections Officer with the City of Las Vegas and her husband is a Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Officer.



Kenji Okuma of Winnemucca NHP and Debbie Okuma of Winnemucca P&P became the proud grandparents of Adam Clayton Dossey on July 1, 2003. Little Adam weighed in at 8 lbs. 5 oz. and was 21" long. Adam's parents are Kara and Mike Dossey of Winnemucca.

Kalen Mullen, born July 8 in Las Vegas to P&P Division IV employee Rena Mullen and husband Joe Mullen, gets a big hug from his brother, Dawson. Kalen weighed in at 8 lbs 15 oz and was 21" long.



2003



Logan Maree Kimsey, birthday 8/29/02, loves to pose for grandfather Bruce Ferrel, Grants and Projects Analyst (State Emergency Response Commission). Logan's mom and dad are Jenelle and Jesse Kimsey of Reno. Jesse is a Master Sergeant in the Nevada Air Guard. He has been activated until 2005 and will soon be leaving for Iraq. Jenelle is a Dental Hygienist and is also a Master Sergeant in the Air Guard. Grandmother is Kathe Ferrel, a registered nurse at Washoe Medical Center Nephrology Unit.



These two princesses, Deanna (6) and Aubrie (4) Earwicker, are the granddaughters of Eve Tlachac, DPS Personnel, and live in Silver Springs, NV.

A big "Thank You" for all staff who participated in the Bowling Charity Event on Saturday, September 6. The Division of P&P raised over \$500 for Olive Crest which provides homes and services for abused children. Three teams from our agency also placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd in overall score. Below are the names of those staff members who participated in the event. All took personal time to represent the agency and helped raise a lot of money for a very worthy cause.



Shane Brandon	Deborah Lupe	Sherrie Sneen	Shelley Carrao
Victoria MacKenzie	Beth Stankus	Ruby Fulton	Deon McDaniel
Dennis Zeemer	Michele Jackson	William Reubart	Bonnie Kendall
Norma Ross	Robert Latham	Michael Silva	

Again, special thanks for making a difference and representing the Division.

**R**eno NHP Dispatch is very proud of dispatcher Maria Maiden. Maria became a U.S. citizen the first week of September. Congratulations, Maria! We understand the questions on the examination are very difficult. Here are a few samples:

1. What do the stripes on the flag mean?
2. Who is the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court?
3. Name the 13 original states.
4. How many amendments are there to the constitution?
5. How many senators are there in Congress?

I wonder how many people who were born here can pass the citizenship test?



HAPPY  
TURKEY  
DAY!



Heather M. Brazil, Accounting Assistant I, Central Accounting, is proud of her new "babies," Golden and Diamond.



## The Armpit of America?

**O**n December 2, 2001, in the *Washington Post* magazine, writer Gene Weingarten wrote an article titled, "Why Not the Worst?" He describes his

assignment to select the most abject community to be awarded the name, "The Armpit of America." In his journey, he begins by telling his readers of his decent into a "charmless city" of 20,000 in the Northern Nevada desert - referring to our sweet city of Elko. He equates Elko to Florence during the Italian Renaissance compared to his final destination of Battle Mountain. His mission is not to proclaim Battle Mountain as America's armpit, but to prove it's America's heart. After turning off the highway, at the base of the hill, he sees proudly in giant letters: BM, he knew it wasn't going to be easy! It is a very entertaining article and if anyone is interested in reading the full version you can find it on Battle Mountain's website [www.battlemountain.org/armpit.htm](http://www.battlemountain.org/armpit.htm).

**B**attle Mountain's national title has sparked big interest and fame. This year Old Spice hopped aboard and became the city's sponsor for the annual Festival in the Pit. Our own P&P Operations Supervisor, Walt Nielsen was on hand to show off his classic car in the Show & Shine and even won \$500 on the Poker Run!

Always remember you're  
unique, just like  
everyone else.



Fifteen of the top twenty film comedies are listed below in a jumbled state. Anagram the list into fun film titles. (I've done the first one for you.) Answers on Page 7

1. \*\*SHAM\*\* (1970) M\*A\*S\*H
2. KUDOS CUP (1988)
3. HEIGHTENED AT NIPPON (1934)
4. DIGS ZEN BALLADS (1974)
5. TIMELIEST HOOK (1959)
6. AIR NEPAL! (1980)
7. I HENNA ALL (1977)
8. HOPE TO CUDDLE (1968)
9. GATHER A DUET (1967)
10. LONG TRAVERSED (1964 partial title)
11. PAIN BY GRUBBING (1938)
12. NO FUNKY ARGENTINES (1974)
13. REHEATING A TOP HAT (1935)
14. REIGNITIN' ASH INN (1952)
15. RAMPANT TEETH (1960)



## Goodbye Dolores



Massachusetts native Dolores Chomes retired after 25 years and 4 months with the State of Nevada. She kept the Office of Professional Responsibility (Internal Affairs) in line until she decided to retire to Las Vegas with her husband. Rumor has it Dolores has a beautiful home with a swimming pool...she sure deserves the leisure life after working with the guys at OPR! Good luck Dolores! You will be missed!



## Investigation Division Introduces "Kety" the Drug Dog

Meet Kety. She is a 4 ½ year old Belgian Malinois/German Shepard mix who loves to find drugs and help her partner and best friend Investigator Dave McNeely catch bad guys. Arriving from Czechoslovakia, Kety is an integral part of the Tri Net Task Force that McNeely is a part of. "It is so gratifying to be able to get a search warrant as a result of her alerting on dope in a residence," said McNeely. "She is a priceless asset for our unit and I can truly say she is my best friend."

Drug detection dogs have a sense of smell that rivals any other species. McNeely uses the analogy of what a pot of spaghetti smells like. Humans can identify the smell as "spaghetti." Drug dogs identify individually the tomato sauce, the oregano, the onions, and the ground beef, hence their incredible ability to ferret out drugs like pot, meth, heroin and the like. When she finds the drugs, either during training or in a real bust, her reward is praise from Dave while he plays with her with her favorite toy.

Kety lives with McNeely and his family at their Carson City residence and she eats around 44 pounds of "Pedigree" dog food a month, which is provided free by the Sparks Kal Kan factory. Welcome to the DPS family, Kety!

## I Wonder Why?

- If a turtle doesn't have a shell, is he homeless or naked?
- Why don't sheep shrink when it rains?
- Can vegetarians eat animal crackers?
- If the police arrest a mime, do they tell him he has the right to remain silent?
- How do they get the deer to cross at that yellow road sign?
- Why do they sterilize the needles for lethal injections?
- Is it true that cannibals don't eat clowns because they taste funny?





# CRASH!



Trooper Scott Cobel (car #381) was struck by a Dodge pickup while he was writing a ticket to a speeder. Scott was stopped on SR 160 @ Sandy Valley when the pickup truck veered out of the travel lane and hit his patrol car. Scott saw the truck coming and ran, but was struck when his unit swung around after the collision. Scott was transported with minor injuries. The driver of the pickup was cited for falling asleep at the wheel. (He claims he suffers from apnea.) We're all glad Scott is okay.



Trooper Roy Hutchings was called to active duty with the Marine Corp and is currently stationed in Djibouti, Africa. We have published excerpts from an e-mail Kim Evans received thanking everyone for their support.

"As the war on terrorism continues here in the US Central Command area of responsibility, many reservists still serve in deployed areas such as the one I am assigned to here in Djibouti, Africa.

Those who have ever served in the armed forces are more than acutely aware of the physical and emotional strain active service puts on people. Mail call and telephone calls are the single most important things deployed people think about. It is truly the only connection we have to everything we have left. Lt. Paul Hinen (NHP) recently took it upon himself to spearhead a drive to insure that this old marine gunnery sergeant did not have a shortage of mail while deployed. Lt. Hinen brought a box into NHP HQ and started a drive to send a care package to Trooper/Gunnery Sergeant Hutchings. He placed a picture of me on the box that should have scared people away and yet the box was filled. The HQ folks responded with so much enthusiasm that Lt Hinen had to get several more boxes to make sure that nothing was left over. The outpouring of cards, snacks, games, books and goodies sent to me by the folks at the NHP had me brimming with pride as more than several members of the task force waited to see what was in these huge boxes. I was overwhelmed when I saw a polo shirt along with one of the new patches from Lt Callison of NDI. Alicia Williamson's boys along with Gina Rosa gave me handmade cards thanking me for my service. Deena Jackson sent me books on American history and promised

there was to be a test when I got home. Crackers, cookies and every other conceivable snack was included in these boxes.

My pride went to the roof when someone asked me who sent it to me and I said my friends and my workmates at the Nevada Highway Patrol did this for me and in a minute the box was empty and everyone was munching away. While I was taking the empty box outside to the garbage my mind was racing and I was asking myself what do I say, what do I tell the people at home to let them know how much I appreciate the outpouring of kindness shown to me? I thought about this for several days and still I can think of nothing adequate to thank everyone or just to convey the feelings that I had when I opened that box. It was a feeling of pride. A feeling that even though I am a full half-a-world away from my family and friends, that you cared enough about me to do what you

have done. You have truly brought a smile and more thank you's than I can count from all of my teammates here. Whether or not you know it, you made a difference here by sending those care packages to us. It helped lift our morale more than you may ever know. America is truly the greatest nation in the world and it is because of Americans like you that keeps me re-enlisting in the Marine Corps. It is truly an honor and a privilege to serve you at home or abroad. I remain in your debt and gratitude."

Roy Hutchings  
Gunnery Sergeant  
US Marines



## NHP AWARDS

On Wednesday, September 3, the Elko Division of NHP celebrated with a potluck lunch in honor of their retirees and employees of the quarter. Recipients included:

Employees of the Quarter: Trp John Jessee; Dispatcher Tellina Marlar; Supervisor Stephen Boyer.

Retirees: Trp Larry Reynolds; Trp Cliff Smith; Trp Galen Daugherty; Trp Doug Darlington.

The Northern Command honors their winners quarterly at a brunch which includes their favorite food "Krispy Kremes." (Yum). Award winners for the Northern Command/ NHP were: Trp Chris Greb (Reno); Sue Merron, AAI (Reno); Trp Doug Kassebaum (Verington); Tina Stout, AAI (Reno); Maggie Bell, Dispatcher (Reno); Trp Cindy Campbell (Carson); Dave Ballard, Evidence Custodian (Reno).

Congratulations to you all!



## TECHNOLOGY AWARDS

On October 10, the DPS Technology Division held its somewhat annual employee appreciation and awards luncheon. Those employees receiving awards were:

Dianne Onorato, Systems Section Employee of the Year; Jeannie Johnson, Applications Section Employee of the Year; Lani Smith, Network Section Employee of the Year; Jeff Gallwey, Operations and Help Desk Section Employee of the Year; Doug Wells, Rookie of the Year; Dean Reynolds, Coordinator of the Year; Steve Noyes, Technology Division Employee of the Year.

### Amazing Facts

- Ernest Vincent Wright wrote a novel, "Gadsby", which contains over 50,000 words -- none of them with the letter E!
- Of all the words in the English language, the word "set" has the most definitions.
- A toothpick is the object most often choked on by Americans.
- Over 2500 left handed people a year are killed from using products made for right handed people.
- Taphephobia is the fear of being buried alive.

### Answers to Fun Film Quiz

1. M\*A\*S\*H
2. DUCK SOUP
3. IT HAPPENED ONE NIGHT
4. BLAZING SADDLES
5. SOME LIKE IT HOT
6. AIRPLANE!
7. ANNIE HALL
8. THE ODD COUPLE
9. THE GRADUATE
10. DR. STRANGELOVE (OR: HOW I LEARNED TO STOP WORRYING AND LOVE THE BOMB)
11. BRINGING UP BABY
12. YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN
13. A NIGHT AT THE OPERA
14. SINGIN' IN THE RAIN
15. THE APARTMENT



Ever stop to think, and forget to start again?



NHP Southern Command front office personnel are proud of their accomplishments, and rightfully so. As of Oct. 15, they have processed over 9400 reports (up from 600 last year). Amazingly they have accomplished this with three personnel vacancies during the past year. Pictured above (left to right) Fred Jackman, Brad Carson, Helen Ramsey, Melissa Berry, Rhonda Martinez, Starr Anderson, Skip Spreitzer.

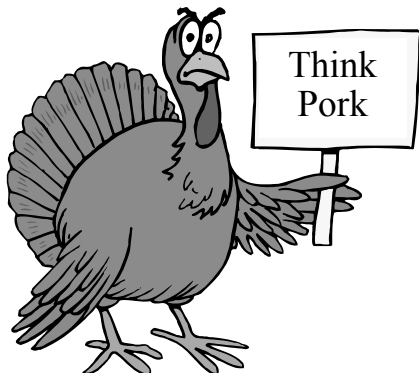


**We're on the Web**  
**[www.ps.state.nv.us](http://www.ps.state.nv.us)**

After his Dad passed away in 1998, David Smith, Parole Board, Carson City, discovered his father's collection of Service flags. (You may recall seeing such flags in WWII movies.) After researching their significance and historical value, he discovered the Service flag is a national symbol governed by the Department of Defense (DoD). After 9/11 and the beginning of the war against terrorism, his family wanted to revive the tradition of displaying Service flags because of the patriotic call to arms. They looked up the DoD regulations governing the Service flag and contacted the entity designated to authorize the manufacture and sale of the Service flag. This led to the creation of their family business, Serviceflags.com, Inc. Theirs was the first company authorized to manufacture the Service flag for the war on terrorism. The business donates much of the proceeds to Blue Star Mothers of America to support their activities in supporting our troops and their families (see [www.bluestarmothers.org](http://www.bluestarmothers.org)). Army Capt. George H. Maines conceived the idea for the Blue Star Mothers in 1942. He ran a newspaper article in Flint, Mich., on Jan 22, 1942, requesting information about children serving in the armed forces. More than 1,000 mothers responded. However the blue star flag was created in 1917 and people hung it in their windows to denote that a member of the family was serving in the armed forces. You can find out more by visiting either [bluestarmothers.org](http://bluestarmothers.org) or [serviceflags.com](http://serviceflags.com).



Four members from the Southern Command Honor Guard met the USS Tarawa in San Diego to retrieve the Nevada State Flag. The flag was sent to the ship before the war started and was flown on the Tarawa while on patrol in the Persian Gulf. The flag was turned over by HTCS Regino Chale, US Navy, on the dock next to the ship in front of about 1,000 on-lookers. The plans for the flag are to put it on permanent display in the new NHP facility.



*This newsletter belongs to you and we need your help to provide the information you most want to hear. All suggestions are gratefully accepted. Contact:*

**Kim Evans, PIO**  
Director's Office  
(775) 684-4554  
[kevans@dps.state.nv.us](mailto:kevans@dps.state.nv.us)

**Linda Blevins, GPA**  
Criminal Justice Assistance  
(775) 687-1289  
[lblevins@dps.state.nv.us](mailto:lblevins@dps.state.nv.us)

*Thank you to all who contributed to our newsletter!*